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JAN 22 2002

REQUEST
FORCONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTALSubsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Express Mail No	EL 477 034 015 US
Application Number	09/026 459
Filing Date	February 19, 1998
First Named Inventor	Xu
Group Art Unit	1632
Examiner Name	R. Shukla
Attorney Docket Number	8660-025

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JAN 22 2002This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of an RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

a. ☒ Previously submittedi. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on June 22, 2001 and June 28, 2001.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____iii. ☐ Other _____b. ☐ Enclosedi. ☐ Amendment/Replyii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months. Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150:i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e), estimated to be \$ 370.00ii. ☒ Extension of time fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17, estimated to be \$ 980.00 for a 5 month extension, the request for which is being made herewithiii. ☐ Other _____b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosedc. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Brian M. Poissant	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,462
Signature	<i>Brian M. Poissant</i>	Date	January 22, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or by facsimile transmitted to fax no. 1-703- to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.

Name (Print/Type)		Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	
Signature		Date	

Burden Hour Statement. This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. The fee will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES AND COMPLETED FORMS to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.